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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Letter dated 27 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest horrific act of Palestinian terrorism which occurred several hours ago, as Jews in Israel and throughout the world sat down to the festive Seder meal to celebrate Passover, the festival of freedom.

At approximately 7.30 p.m. (Israel time), a Palestinian suicide bomber entered the Park Hotel in the coastal Israeli city of Netanya, where approximately 250 people were celebrating their Passover meal. The bomber detonated his explosives in the hotel dining room, tearing up the ground floor of the hotel, killing 19 people, at last count, and injuring over 100, at least 24 severely. The terrorist organization Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack, declaring it a "victory", in a call placed to the television station "Al-Jazeera", while other sources have reported that the military wing of Chairman Arafat's own Fatah movement claimed responsibility for the attack in a call placed to the Hezbollah television station "Al-Manar". The bomber has been identified as Abdel-Basset Odeh, a man whom Israel has been requesting Palestinian police forces to arrest for some four years for involvement in terrorist activities.

This gruesome act of terrorism against innocent civilians is the latest in the ongoing campaign of Palestinian terrorism that has been detailed in my letters dated 26 March 2002 (A/56/889-S/2002/315), 18 March 2002 (A/56/880-S/2002/293), 14 March 2002 (A/56/876-S/2002/280), 11 March 2002 (A/56/867-S/2002/257), 8 March 2002 (A/56/864-S/2002/252), 5 March 2002 (A/56/857-S/2002/233), 4 March 2002 (A/56/854-S/2002/222), 27 February 2002 (A/56/843-S/2002/208), 20 February 2002 (A/56/828-S/2002/185), 19 February 2002 (A/56/824-S/2002/174), 11 February 2002 (A/56/819-S/2002/164), 8 February 2002 (A/56/814-S/2002/155), 28 January 2002 (A/56/798-S/2002/126), 22 January 2002 (A/56/788-S/2002/104), 18 January 2002 (A/56/781-S/2002/86), 16 January 2002 (A/56/774-S/2002/73), 11 January 2002 (A/56/771-S/2002/47), 4 January 2002 (A/56/766-S/2002/25), 13 December 2001 (A/56/706-S/2001/1198), 4 December 2001 (A/56/678-S/2001/1150), 30 November 2001 (A/56/670-S/2001/1141), 27 November 2001 (A/56/663-S/2001/1121), 12 November 2001 (A/56/617-S/2001/1071), 5 November 2001 (A/56/604-S/2001/1048), 24 October 2001 (A/56/506-S/2001/1011), 19 October

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2001 (A/56/492-S/2001/990), 17 October 2001 (A/56/483-S/2001/975), 8 October 2001 (A/56/450-S/2001/948), 5 October 2001 (A/56/444-S/2001/943), 3 October 2001 (A/56/438-S/2001/938), 24 September 2001 (A/56/406-S/2001/907), 20 September 2001 (A/56/386-S/2001/892), 17 September 2001 (A/56/367-S/2001/875), 7 September 2001 (A/56/346-S/2001/858), 4 September 2001 (A/56/331-S/2001/840), 30 August 2001 (A/56/325-S/2001/834), 27 August 2001 (A/56/324-S/2001/825), 13 August 2001 (A/56/294-S/2001/787), 9 August 2001 (A/56/286-S/2001/780), 8 August 2001 (A/56/280-S/2001/775), 6 August 2001 (A/56/272-S/2001/768), 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001 (A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

Since the arrival of United States Special Envoy General Anthony Zinni to the region, Israel has spared no efforts to work with him in order to ensure that a ceasefire is put in place so as to enable the parties to implement the Tenet Plan and Mitchell Committee recommendations. The Palestinian side has continued to reject General Zinni's ceasefire proposals and has taken absolutely no measures to bring an end to the wave of Palestinian terrorism that has shaken the region for over 18 months.

In the face of the abject failure of Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian Authority to fulfill its moral and legal commitments to take even minimal steps to bring this terrorism to an end, and the continued active support and glorification of suicide bombings against innocent civilians by the highest echelons of the Palestinian leadership, the international community must hold them directly responsible for these reprehensible acts of terrorism. In these circumstances, Israel will take the necessary actions to protect its citizens, as is the right and duty of any state under international law.

Israel's commitment to the achievement of a negotiated political settlement with the Palestinian people is unshakable. But we will not stand idly by as an unrelenting campaign of violence, sanctioned by the Palestinian Authority, continues to massacre innocent civilians, precisely because they are innocent. Israel calls on the international community to make it clear to Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian leadership that their continued terrorism and their nurturing of hatred in Palestinian society are intolerable. Full pressure must be brought to bear to ensure that genuine and immediate action is taken by the Palestinian leadership to completely dismantle the terrorist infrastructure which it sustains in the territory under its control. The

Palestinian leadership must be compelled to fully respect the basic duty to resolve all disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with its own signed commitments.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**

United Nations A/56/892–S/2002/325

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
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Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 27 March 2002 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Joint Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan on Combating International Terrorism, adopted at the meeting held in Tokyo, on 2 February 2002 (see annex).

We should be grateful if the text of this letter and its annex were distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yukio **Satoh**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 27 March 2002 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Joint Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan on Combating International Terrorism

On 2 February 2002, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. Igor Sergeevich Ivanov, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Yoriko Kawaguchi, taking into account United Nations Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) and 1373 (2001), statement by the leaders of the G-8 countries in September 2001 and the APEC Economic Leaders' Statement on Counter-Terrorism in October 2001, discussed issues relating to the expansion of bilateral cooperation in combating international terrorism. Guided by the provisions of the Joint Statement on Cooperation between the Russian Federation and Japan in International Affairs, signed in September 2000, the sides confirmed their mutual readiness to strengthen that cooperation.

The Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Japan condemn in the strongest terms the terrorist acts committed in the United States of America on 11 September 2001 and express their deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims, who were the citizens of many countries, and to their families, as well as to the people and the Government of the United States of America.

In this context, the sides declare:

1. International terrorism poses a threat to international peace and security. Any terrorist act, method or practice is a crime for which there is no justification, whencesoever and from whomever it emanates, and by whatever motives the perpetrators are guided.

2. The fight against international terrorism which has become one of the priority tasks of the world community, calls for joint efforts by all the world's States. The United Nations plays the main role in this. Global mechanisms, including the G-8, have an important place in the fight against international terrorism. Also of great significance is the strengthening of solidarity at all levels of the international community, in particular, through effective dialogue and coordination among the States of the Asia-Pacific region on a bilateral basis or within the framework of such organizations as the ASEAN Regional Forum, APEC and others.

3. Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and other international legal documents, the sides will exert maximum effort for the prevention and suppression of future terrorist acts in any form. The sides will continue to cooperate closely within the framework of the United Nations, the G-8 and other international forums with a view to the proper implementation of Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) and 1373 (2001). One of the most important steps in this direction would be

the entry into force of all 12 counter-terrorism conventions. In this context, the sides will, in particular, promote the speedy entry into force of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, referred to in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), and support the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to secure the accession to those 12 conventions of the widest possible range of States.

The sides, on the basis of the tasks relating to the fight against international terrorism, favour the expeditious completion of the preparation and adoption of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism.

4. The sides, taking into account the fact that a serious blow has been dealt to the international terrorists and terrorist groups present in the territory of Afghanistan under the Taliban regime and the Interim Authority of Afghanistan has begun to function, support the actions of the International Security Assistance Force operating in the territory of Afghanistan on the basis of a United Nations mandate with a view to providing the necessary stability for and giving a constructive impetus to the process of nation-building in that country.

In addition, the sides, on the basis of the concept of the indivisibility of the processes of reconstruction and establishing peace, for the purpose of supporting the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001 and taking into account the priorities for reconstruction indicated by the Interim Authority of Afghanistan in the course of the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan in Tokyo, call on the United Nations and the international community to provide assistance and, in turn, jointly confirm their own intention to render such support to the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

5. The sides confirm their common intention to take the following concrete steps, aimed at the swift and final eradication of terrorism:

(1) To facilitate the prevention and suppression of the preparation and commission of terrorist acts in their respective territories;

(2) To arrest and carry out the criminal prosecution of persons involved in the preparation and commission of terrorist acts, and to foster the development of bilateral cooperation for these purposes;

(3) On the basis of the rules of international law and national legislation, to strive to ensure that terrorists do not use organizations, groups and associations, including charitable, public and cultural ones, to conceal their activities;

(4) To take the necessary measures to counteract and prevent the financing of terrorists and terrorist organizations;

(5) To take appropriate action in their respective countries to prevent materials and technologies related to weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, biological and chemical weapons) from falling into the hands of terrorists;

(6) To continue active consultations under the auspices of the foreign affairs departments of the Russian Federation and Japan with a view to further strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation in combating the global terrorist threat;

(7) To develop bilateral cooperation for the purpose of preventing acts of terrorism and responding to terrorist actions.

I. **Ivanov**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

Y. **Kawaguchi**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

2 February 2002